

Explanation of Amendments in the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A cutting auger comprising:

a first cutting device mounted on auger blade having a first drive core and ~~a first helical auger flight carried on the first drive core~~ for rotation about a longitudinal axis of the first drive core;

the first cutting device comprising a first helical flight coaxially surrounding the first drive core with a first cutting arrangement edge at an axial end face of the first cutting device auger flight such that, when the first cutting device is rotated, the first cutting arrangement and the first helical flight rotate at a common first rate of rotation;

the first cutting arrangement edge having an outermost cutting point of its cutting action at a location which generates a cutting diameter of the first cutting device which is equal in diameter to an outer diameter of the first helical flight such that, when rotated, the first cutting element cuts a hole equal in diameter to an outer diameter of the first helical flight and the first helical flight carries the cut material away from the first cutting arrangement;

a second cutting device mounted on auger blade having a second drive core and ~~a second helical auger flight carried on the second drive core~~ for rotation about a longitudinal axis of the second drive core;

the second cutting device comprising a second helical flight coaxially surrounding the second drive core with a second cutting arrangement edge at an axial end face of the second cutting device auger flight such that,

when the second cutting device is rotated, the second cutting arrangement and the second helical flight rotate at a common second rate of rotation;

the second cutting arrangement edge having an outermost cutting point of its cutting action at a location which generates a cutting diameter of the second cutting device which is equal in diameter to an outer diameter of the second helical flight such that, when rotated, the second cutting element cuts a hole equal in diameter to an outer diameter of the second helical flight and the second helical flight carries the cut material away from the second cutting arrangement;

the second cutting device auger blade being coaxial with the first cutting device and arranged with the second cutting arrangement edge thereof axially in advance of the first cutting arrangement;

~~the second auger blade having a smaller diameter than the first;~~

the first and second helical flights being arranged with the helical turns of the first helical flight thereof in opposed angular direction to the helical turns of the second helical flight;

and a drive assembly arranged to rotate the first and second cutting device augers in opposed direction to that of the second cutting device with the first driven at a slower angular velocity than the second;

the outermost cutting point of the second cutting arrangement defining the cutting diameter of the second cutting device which is smaller than the cutting diameter generated by the first cutting arrangement such that an outer annular portion of the first cutting arrangement of the first cutting device effects a

cutting action to generate a hole greater in diameter than the second cutting arrangement;

the drive assembly being arranged to drive the first cutting device at a first speed and to drive the second cutting device at a second speed with the first and second speeds arranged such that torque generated by the cutting action of the first cutting device in one direction substantially balances torque generated by the cutting action of the second cutting device in the opposite direction.

2.(currently amended) The cutting auger according to Claim 1 wherein the drive assembly is mounted at a rear end of the first cutting device auger.

3.(currently amended) The cutting auger according to Claim 1 wherein the drive assembly is mounted at a housing having at least one handle for manually holding the drive assembly ~~cutting auger~~ for preventing rotation of the drive assembly ~~cutting auger~~ about the axis.

4.(original) The cutting auger according to Claim 1 wherein the drive assembly includes a motor.

5.(original) The cutting auger according to Claim 1 wherein the drive assembly includes a manually operable crank.

6.(original) The cutting auger according to Claim 5 wherein the crank includes a ratchet.

7.(currently amended) The cutting auger according to Claim 1 wherein the second helical flight cutting auger has a rear end at ~~or adjacent the~~ first cutting arrangement, edge of the first auger

8.(currently amended) The cutting auger according to Claim 1 wherein the second helical flight cutting auger is shorter than the first helical flight cutting auger.

9.(original) The cutting auger according to Claim 1 wherein the drive assembly includes a planetary gear set.

10.(currently amended) The cutting auger according to Claim 9 wherein the second drive core is driven by the sun of the planetary gear set and the first ~~second~~ drive core is driven by the ring of the planetary gear set.

11.(original) The cutting auger according to Claim 1 wherein the drive assembly includes two planetary gear sets arranged axially spaced.

12.(currently amended) The cutting auger according to Claim 11 wherein the ~~second cutting auger has the~~ second drive core is connected to the planets of the first planetary gear set, ~~and~~ wherein the sun of the first planetary gear set is driven, wherein the sun of the second planetary gear set is driven commonly with the second drive core and wherein the first drive core ~~case~~ is driven from the ring of the second gear set.

13.(currently amended) The cutting auger according to Claim 1 wherein the first cutting device ~~auger~~ is driven at a rate of the order 3 times less than the second cutting device ~~auger~~.

14 (cancelled)

Add new claims as follows:

15.(new) A cutting auger comprising:

a first cutting device mounted on a first drive core for rotation about a longitudinal axis of the first drive core;

the first cutting device comprising a first helical flight coaxially surrounding the first drive core with a first cutting arrangement at an axial end of the first cutting device such that, when the first cutting device is rotated, the first cutting arrangement and the first helical flight rotate at a common first rate of rotation;

the first cutting arrangement having an outermost cutting point of its cutting action at a location which generates a cutting diameter of the first cutting device which is equal in diameter to an outer diameter of the first helical flight such that, when rotated, the first cutting element cuts a hole equal in diameter to an outer diameter of the first helical flight and the first helical flight carries the cut material away from the first cutting arrangement;

a second cutting device mounted on a second drive core for rotation about a longitudinal axis of the second drive core;

the second cutting device comprising a second helical flight coaxially surrounding the second drive core with a second cutting arrangement at an axial end of the second cutting device such that, when the second cutting device is rotated, the second cutting arrangement and the second helical flight rotate at a common second rate of rotation;

the second cutting arrangement having an outermost cutting point of its cutting action at a location which generates a cutting diameter of the second cutting device which is equal in diameter to an outer diameter of the second helical flight such that, when rotated, the second cutting element cuts a hole equal in diameter to an outer diameter of the second helical flight and the second helical flight carries the cut material away from the second cutting arrangement;

the second cutting device being coaxial with the first cutting device and arranged with the second cutting arrangement thereof axially in advance of the first cutting arrangement;

the first and second helical flights being arranged with the helical turns of the first helical flight in opposed angular direction to the helical turns of the second helical flight;

and a drive assembly arranged to rotate the first cutting device in opposed direction to that of the second cutting device;

the outermost cutting point of the second cutting arrangement defining the cutting diameter of the second cutting device which is smaller than the cutting diameter generated by the first cutting arrangement such that an outer annular portion of the first cutting arrangement of the first cutting device effects a cutting action to generate a hole greater in diameter than the second cutting arrangement;

the drive assembly having a gear transmission providing a fixed speed ratio arranged to drive the first cutting device at a first speed and to drive

the second cutting device at a second speed with the first and second speeds arranged such that torque generated by the cutting action of the first cutting device in one direction substantially balances torque generated by the cutting action of the second cutting device in the opposite direction.